

(DOCUMENT, B B.)

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Harford.

REPORT

OF THE

MINORITY OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOTTERIES.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

April 3, 1839.

Read, and 555 copies ordered to be printed.

Ry order,

George G. Brewer, Clerk.

The undersigned, from the Committee on Lotteries, to whom was referred the Executive message delivered on the 4th of March past, marked N: on the House file of printed documents, together with the reports and communications from the late and the present commissioners of lotteries, after having deliberately examined and considered the same, submit the following Report.

In consequence of an intimation that it was the wish of the late commissioners, or of some one of them on their behalf, to be indulged with a hearing before the committee, special meetings were appointed and held for that purpose; but it seems that those gentlemen afterwards determined to address their explanatory communication directly to the House of Delegates, instead of making it through the medium of the Committee on Lotteries. No exception however is taken to the course which those gentlemen preferred to adopt.

By referring to the minutes of proceedings on file in the office of the Secretary of State, it appears that the appointment of commissioners of lotteries in 1838, took place on the 27th of January, 1838, and that the appointment of other persons to fill the places of Lottery Commissioners was made in January 1839, and that new commissions issued on the 29th of said month.

The paper hereto annexed, marked A., shows that the new commissioners entered upon the discharge of their duties as such, on the 1st day of March 1839; but the paper, marked B., sets forth that a majority of them had, as early as the 13th of February, notified the old commissioners that the persons composing said majority of new commissioners had "bonded and qualified," and were "ready to enter on the duties."

The same paper further sets forth, that notwithstanding said notification being given, the old commissioners, or some of them, on the 19th of February, "called on the agent of the contractors here, to anticipate the payment for March," and that the contractor complied